



06-08-04

~~\$ RCE
1761~~

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Attorney Docket No.: 00-176-D

Application No.: 10/080,872

Filing Date: February 22, 2002

First Named Inventor: Loren J. Veltrop

Group Art Unit: 1761

Examiner Name: Drew E. Becker

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
 - iii. Other
 - b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Previously-filed Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), with proof of receipt
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (i) required)
 - b. Other

APPLICATION FEES

BASIC FEE		\$ 770.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time fee	+\$	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	+\$	\$ 0
Total of above calculations =		\$ 770.00
Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity =		\$ (0)
TOTAL =		\$ 770.00

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RCE REQUEST TRANSMITTAL

Attorney Docket No. 00-176-D

3. Please charge my Deposit Account No. 13-2490 in the amount of \$

4. A check in the amount of \$770 is enclosed.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge any additional fees of the following types to Deposit Account No. 13-2490:

- Fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.
- Fees required under 37 CFR 1.17.
- Fees required under 37 CFR 1.18.

6. The Commissioner is hereby generally authorized under 37 CFR 1.136(a)(3) to treat any future reply in this or any related application filed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.53 requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefor, and the Commissioner is hereby specifically authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 13-2490 for any fee that may be due in connection with such a request for an extension of time.

7. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at 703-872-9306, or being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

I hereby certify that, under 37 CFR § 1.10, I directed that the correspondence identified above be deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date indicated below. Express Mail No. EV333556505US.

8. USPTO CUSTOMER NUMBER

20306

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

9. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name	Richard A. Machonkin
Reg. No.	41,962
Signature	<i>Richard A. Machonkin</i>
Date	June 7, 2004

RCE (Rev. 11/27/00)



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Case No. 00-176-D)

In the Application of:)
Loren J. Veltrop) Art Unit: 1761
Serial No.: 10/080,872)
Filed: February 22, 2002) Examiner: Drew E. Becker
For: Apparatus and Method for Maintaining) Confirmation No. 2509
Cooked Food in a Ready-to-Serve)
Condition Using a Freestanding Cover)
For Food Trays)

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED MARCH 8, 2004

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 8, 2004, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.